# ireland as experience





# SOME IDEAS FOR A 7 DAY TOUR OF IRELAND



# ATTRACTIONS INCLUDED IN TOUR

- Dublin City Tour
   Guinness Storehouse
   Trinity College/Book of Kells
   Glendalough
   Kilmainham Gaol
   EPIC Museum
   Teeling Whiskey
   Merry Ploughboy Irish Night
- GALWAY Tour of Connemara Kylemore Abbey
- CLARECliffs of Moher
- KERRY
   Dingle Peninsula/Slea Head
   Ring of Kerry Tour
   Muckross House & Gardens
- CORK
   Blarney Castle/Blarney Stone
   Cobh Heritage Centre
- TIPPERARY Rock of Cashel



Over the past 10 years, Ireland US Experience have put together a wide range of customized chauffeur-drive, family and small group tours, as well as larger organized group tours.

When working with prospective guests on a custom tour, we are often asked what the ideal itinerary would be that would include as many 'must see' places as possible if the guests only had seven days available to travel around Ireland. So we have put together this sample itinerary that includes a wide variety of well known and not-so-well-known locations around the country that can be accomplished within that time frame.

Over the 7 days you will visit attractions as diverse as the spectacular Cliffs of Moher, the serene valley of Glendalough, the fabulous scenery on the Ring of Kerry and picturesque towns like Dingle and Cobh. Along the way, you will find out what makes Ireland so special, whether it's the people, the places, the music or the humor.

You will also visit world famous attractions including the Guinness Storehouse, the Book of Kells, Blarney Castle, and Kylemore Abbey in the wilds of Connemara.

You can find further details of a proposed day-by-day itinerary on the following pages.

And, of course, any amendments that you require can be made to include places that might have a personal connection with you or your family, or perhaps to take in a game of golf, horse-riding or other activities.

If you would like to discuss your exact requirements further why not email us at : experience@irelandusexperience



#### **GALWAY CITY**



# KILMAINHAM GAOL



# **CONG**



#### **GUINNESS STOREHOUSE**







# Day 0 - Depart The USA

Your adventure begins as you take to the air on your journey to the Emerald Isle.

# Day 1 - Dublin - Kilmainham Gaol - Guinness Storehouse

Welcome to Ireland! Your driver/guide will meet up with you in the Arrivals area of Dublin Airport and take you on a short tour of Dublin, Ireland's capital city. Our first stop will be a visit to Kilmainham Gaol, where you will be taken back in history, and get a sense of where the Irish psyche comes from, as you walk in the steps of many of Ireland's most famous revolutionary heroes over the centuries who were imprisoned there or met their final end in the main courtyard. Then it's on to Dublin's most famous location, the Guinness Storehouse (awarded the title of The World's Leading Attraction at the 2023 World Travel Awards in Dubai, ahead of attractions such as Niagra Falls, The Great Wall of China & Machu Pichu in Peru) and officially the most visited attraction in the Republic of Ireland. And you will find out why when you see the panoramic view of the city from the Gravity Bar, and, should you wish, you can learn from the masters how to pull a proper pint of 'the Black Stuff'. Then Finally we will check in to the hotel that will be your home for your first two nights in Ireland, The **Dublin Hard Rock Hotel**, located right beside the famous Temple Bar area, full of restaurants and bars, in the centre of the city, where you are invited for a welcome drink with your guide for the trip. They will talk you through your tour and give some extra suggestions of things to do during your stay. Alternatively, if you prefer somewhere quieter, you could stay in the Clayton Hotel Charlemont, on the banks of the Royal Canal, just outside the city center. You will have the remainder of the evening free to rest up or sample Dublin's nightlife.

# Day 2 - Galway - Connemara - Kylemore Abbey - Cong

This morning we head across the country to the West Coast of Ireland stopping along the way for a visit to Sean's Bar in Athlone reputed to be the oldest bar in Ireland. On our arrival in County Galway we will travel into the wilds of Connemara, an area of stark beauty, paying a visit along the way to the majestic Victorian Walled Gardens of Kylemore Abbey, home to the Benedictine Nuns for over 100 years (and famous for its handmade treats!) and Cong, the location for the famous John Wayne Irish movie, 'The Quiet Man'. We then move down to Galway City, "The City of the Tribes", where we will have a short city tour visiting famous sights like the Spanish Arch, and the old medieval streets, then have a stroll along the seafront in Salthill, looking out on Galway Bay, before checking into our hotel in Galway, the Park House Hotel located just off Eyre Square, in the very heart of Galway. This evening you are free to enjoy the hotel, or perhaps take a walk around Eyre Square, or a short walk into the entertainment part of Galway where you will have a range of different pubs available to sample, many of which feature the best of Irish musical entertainment.

# Day 3 - The Cliffs of Moher - Dingle - Killarney

We take our leave of Galway and head down the coast through County Clare. Along the way we will stop off to pay a visit to the Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland's most iconic sights, where you will get to stroll along the cliffs and take in the bracing Atlantic air. We will then travel down through Country Limerick and take the ferry across to County Kerry (or "The Kingdom" as they like to refer to it locally) where we will head out onto the Dingle Peninsula to Dingle town, where you will have the opportunity for a leisurely stroll around this picturesque fishing town before we head off further down the peninsula to Slea Head, with majestic views out into the Atlantic Ocean, and a backdrop of Skellig Michael, a craggy island, once home to an ancient monastic settlement (and used as a location in recent Star Wars movies). Our final destination today is one of Ireland's most famous towns, Killarney, where we will check into our home for the next two nights, the Gleneagle Hotel, where you will have the evening free to explore Killarney and its many bars and music venues.

### Day 4 - Ring Of Kerry

Today, we head will off on a journey around one of Ireland's most scenic drives, the Ring of Kerry, visiting the seaside town of Waterville, whose most famous summer resident was Charlie Chaplin, then on through Cahirciveen and Molls Gap, stopping off to admire the stunning scenery at Ladies View (featured in our cover image) and finishing up in Muckross House and Gardens, nestling along the banks of the Lakes of Killarney. Then it is back to the <u>Gleneagle</u> on our return to Killarney. Again you have the evening free to enjoy the delights of Killarney or to just chill out and relax.

# Day 5 - Blarney Castle - Cobh

This morning we will head east across Ireland to the 'Rebel County', Cork. Our first stop is Blarney Castle where you will have the chance to kiss the Blarney Stone, that legend says gives you the gift of eloquence. If you are nervous of heights then you might prefer instead to explore the castle's extensive grounds or visit its famous woolens store. From there we move on to the seaside port of Cobh, famous as the last place that Titanic took on passengers, before heading off on its fateful first and last voyage. We will pay a visit to the ornate cathedral and the Cobh Heritage Centre before you arrive at <a href="The Fota Island Resort">The Fota Island Resort</a>, a fabulous 4-Star hotel where you have the evening free to enjoy the resort.

#### Day 6 - Rock of Cashel - Glendalough - Dublin

The famous song says that it's 'A Long Way To Tipperary', but it is not that far from Cork! In Tipperary we will stop to visit the iconic Rock of Cashel, that was once the throne of the High Kings of Munster back in the 5th century. We are on our way back to Dublin city, but there is one more stop along the way as we will pay a visit to one of the most tranquil places in Ireland, the monastic settlement of Glendalough, situated beautifully in a valley between two lakes. The site dates back to the sixth century, when it was founded by Saint Kevin and some of the old monastic buildings, crosses and the round tower still exist. We will then return to your hotel in Dublin where you will have the evening free.



# **ROCK OF CASHEL**



### LAKES OF KILLARNEY



TITANIC PIER IN COBH



**BLARNEY CASTLE** 



#### **FOTA ISLAND RESORT**



#### **EPIC MUSEUM**



# **TEELING WHISKEY**



#### MERRY PLOUGHBOY IRISH NIGHT





# Day 7 - Dublin - EPIC Museum - Teeling Whiskey - Merry Ploughboy

On the final morning of your tour, after your hearty Irish breakfast, our first stop is the high-tech EPIC Emigration Museum, voted Europe's Leading Tourist Attraction in 2019, 2020 and 2021. Here you will discover why such a small country has had such a major impact around the world. Then we take a short walk across the road to the Dublin Harbour Quays, to visit the 'Jeanie Johnston', a replica of the type of Famine Ship that was used to take the early Irish immigrants to the USA. And for a complete contrast, in the afternoon we will visit the home of one of Ireland's other famous beverages, Teeling Whiskey. Here you will discover how grain is converted into a magical amber potion, and, of course, get to sample some of the end result. You will take in some more of the highlights of Dublin on your way back to your hotel, where you have the chance to freshen up before you are taken to the final treat of your Irish adventure, a spectacular show in the Merry Ploughboy pub in the shadow of the Dublin mountains, where you will finish your tour in style with a night filled with the very best of Irish music and dance, accompanied by a fabulous three-course meal.

# Day 8 - The Sad Part - Your Return Hone

Alas, all good things must come to an end, and we have now arrived at the saddest bit of any vacation - the return home. You may be aware that all US Immigration processing actually take place in Dublin Airport, so we will ensure that you are at the airport in good time to check in with Immigration and make your flight. But the good news is that because you will have been pre-processed in Ireland, then when you arrive in the USA and it will be just like arriving on a local US flight.

We hope that you will bring back with you many happy memories of your time with us in Ireland.

#### **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

At Ireland US Experience we like to keep things simple, so we don't have reams of tightly packed legal talk that you probably won't ever read or actually understand. What we want to do, when you travel with us, is to ensure that we give you the best possible vacation that we possibly can, and to make sure that you have such an enjoyable and safe time while you are in our care that you will remember and talk about it for years to come. However, there are a few things that we need to highlight to you, so that you are aware of them prior to travelling with us:

- We are an Irish company, based in Ireland, so any bills or invoices we send you will be denominated in Euro. The actual amount in dollars may be higher or lower depending on the actual exchange rate on the dates the payments are made. We currently invoice through Paypal as we find that our visitors are more comfortable making their payments through a payment system that they are familiar with. Please note that you do not need to have a Paypal account to use this facility, and can instead use your debit or credit card as normal via their secure portal. Paypal will automatically handle the Euro/Dollar conversion for you at whatever rate applies on the day that you make the payment.
- Again, because we are an Irish company, based in Ireland, all dealings with us will be deemed to come under the jurisdiction of Irish law and the Irish courts system, or where they might take precedence, the laws of the UK or the European Union.
- Ireland US Experience Ltd undertake to supply the tour services agreed with our clients, which will usually have been customized to their particular requirements. Should any particular service or accommodation become unavailable at the time of the vacation, due to circumstances beyond our control, we agree to replace the missing item with a similar event or hotel of a similar standard. In return for these services, the client confirms that they will pay the amount agreed.
- The Vacation Package will be priced based on an agreed number of passengers on agreed dates. If the number of passengers or dates changes, then this may result in an adjustment to the price per person. Please note, in particular, that single occupancy rooms will normally be more expensive per person than joint occupancy. In addition, hotel accommodation costs tend to increase, and availability can be limited, during the high season (July to August). Hotel prices also tend to be more expensive when bookings are made close to the arrival date, or on different days of the week. Prices quoted by us could therefore require amendment in situations where you request us to change your original travel or accommodation arrangements.
- An initial non-refundable deposit of 20% of the total amount due per person will normally be payable on confirmation of the booking. The remaining balance will be payable four months prior to the commencement of the vacation. We will invoice you, at the appropriate times, for the Euro amounts based on the overall price agreed at the time the booking was made. Final payments, once paid, become non-refundable. We would recommend that when travelling long distances, such as to Ireland, that you take out travel insurance that is appropriate to your circumstances. A basic travel insurance policy is included as part of your package and details will be notified to you along with your flight confirmations. If you wish to have a more comprehensive cover, you should consult your insurance advisor.
- All entrance costs to the visitor attractions listed in the itinerary that we agree with our clients are included in the price. When requesting us to arrange games of golf, please advise if you would like us to also arrange clubs or buggies and if there are specific courses or types of courses you would like to play.
- As a tour operator, we look after you from the moment you arrive at the airport until the moment we return you to the airport at the end of your vacation. We do not arrange the flights themselves, but can recommend local US or Irish based travel agents who can supply these services at highly competitive rates. All prices quoted by us therefore exclude flight costs unless otherwise stated. Please be aware that international flight costs fluctuate, and can either increase or decrease substantially the closer you get to your departure date, depending on how full a particular flight might be. In general, flight costs will be higher and availability lower in peak season (June to August), so you will need to take this into account when budgeting the overall cost of the vacation.
- If travellers have any special requirements (e.g. smoking rooms, handicap accessible rooms, bedding type, air conditioning, special dietary requirements) please advise at time of booking. Once hotels have confirmed, guests may incur penalties for any changes. Any special requests are subject to their availability at individual hotels and requests cannot be guaranteed.
- In the unlikely event of a medical emergency or issue, our staff will arrange for local medical assistance and transfer to a local hospital, should that be required. While public healthcare is free in Ireland for emergency admittances, if you wished to have private healthcare facilities you will need to ensure that your US health policy covers you for costs incurred outside the USA.
- It is the responsibility of all clients to ensure that they have valid passports before they travel. We recommend that you apply for your passport as early as possible if you do not currently have one, or if it will be out of date prior to your departure/return in order to avoid any last minute issues. Please ensure, when booking your flights, that you notify the travel agent of the exact names of all travellers as listed on their passports, as the airlines may not allow you to board the flight if there is a difference between the passport name and the name on the boarding pass.

Gratuities to drivers/guides are not included in our prices.

Any additional Terms and Conditions that might apply to specific vacation packages will be notified to you when agreeing the itinerary.

Please see our website, <a href="http://www.irelandusexperience.com/about-us.html">http://www.irelandusexperience.com/about-us.html</a> for up-to-date details on our Privacy Policy and GDPR compliance details.

# **HOTELS USED ON THIS TOUR**

3 NIGHTS DUBLIN: Dublin Hard Rock Hotel

1 NIGHT GALWAY: Park House Hotel

2 NIGHTS KERRY: Gleneagles Hotel, Killarney

1 NIGHT CORK: Fota Island Resort

# **TOUR INCLUDES**

Travel By Luxury Bus/Mini-Bus/Car (depending on size of group)

7 Nights In Above Hotels Or Similar (including Full Irish Breakfast Daily)

**Entrance Fees To All Attractions Listed In Brochure** 

**Welcome Bag & Welcome Get Together Drink** 



# **IRELAND US EXPERIENCE**

3 Rushbrook Crescent Templeogue, Dublin 6W, Ireland

Company Reg No. 559222

Website: www.irelandusexperience.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/irelandusexperiene

Email: experience@irelandusexperience.com

